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**County Council Meeting
November 19, 2013**

Present: Jim Seiler, Jack Kroeger, Blake Bunner, Bill Spaetti, Steve Winsett, Dave Kress, Matt Knepper, Attorney Eric Ayer, Auditor Jane Lynam

Meeting was called to order by President Jack Kroeger at 5:00 P.M.

Minutes

Kroeger asked that the motion be restated with corrections from the ~~October 17th~~ ^{September} meeting so everyone could see the motion as it now stands: everyone agreed. Minutes were approved with that correction.

Excerpt of minutes from September 17th after corrections:

This motion is in regard to approving money for The Way who were asking for \$48,000. Bunner said he would make the motion to approve half tonight and in December we could see a 2014 Projection and then after the first of the year we can consider an additional disbursement. Winsett said if they can come back in December, I will withdraw my motion to approve the \$48,000. Bunner then made the motion to approve half \$24,000, tonight rather than the full amount of \$48,000, and to take it all out of the Riverboat Fund; would like to reconsider the 2014 Projection in December and in January 2014 at the meeting consider disbursing another \$24,000. Kress seconded the motion, motion was approved.

Community Corrections-Dick Hedrick

Hedrick wanted the Council to know that they had purchased new cell phones for Drug Court employees and staff; they had previously been using personal phones. Verizon is the new provider and this will be paid for by the Community Corrections Grant.

Hedrick also presented copies of the annual report for the Council to go through, the report covers the time period of July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013. After some discussion on the annual report Kroeger asked if there was any way we could get a handle on what might be happening down the road due to the Penal Code changes. Hedrick said he had no insight other than what he has read in the newspaper.

New Business-Judges Request

The Judge had requested that the Probation Offices salaries be brought up to what the State minimum requirement is. Kroeger explained that at Budget time a 1 ½ percent increase was given to all county employees and there is a state mandate concerning what the Probation Officers salaries. This paperwork has already been submitted so we will have to change our Salary Ordinance in January to correct their salaries. Ayer said he had spoken to the Judge earlier at the request of Kroeger and found out that the increases were strictly for the Probation Officers not any other office personnel.

Additional Appropriations

County General

Circuit Court/Pauper Attorney \$14,164.

Judge Dartt made the request and spoke to the Council. This is partially reimbursed by the State, the paperwork has been submitted to the State and the money has already been sent to the County. We are asking for the money to be able to use it for Pauper Attorney fees.

Bunner made a motion to approve the \$14,164. Winsett seconded the motion, motion approved.

Jail/Jailer Overtime \$10,000.

Request was made by Sheriff Lindsey and he spoke to the Council. Lindsey explained that since they were one jailer down they still had money in salary, but had been using a lot of overtime for the same reason. After some discussion Spaetti made a motion to approve \$2,000 and then have Sheriff Lindsey come back next month and do a transfer for the rest of the money. Kress seconded the motion, motion was approved.

Appropriation Only

Misdemeanant/Appropriation to Line Item \$3,000.

Sheriff Lindsey made the request and spoke to the Council. Lindsey explained that they used this money for their cell phone service. They just switched their provider from AT&T to Verizon. Lindsey explained that there is plenty of money there it just needs to be appropriated to that line

November 19, 2013

Item so the bills can be processed.

Seiler made a motion to approve the \$3,000. Kress seconded the motion, motion was approved.

Lieberman Technologies-Teleconferencing

Kroeger explained that a request for \$30,000 was made from AK Steel Settlement Funds previously and approved by the Redevelopment Commission and the Commissioners but the Council had tabled it. Lindsey and Dartt explained that this system would save time and money. They had looked at other vendors, but they both felt comfortable with Lieberman. Lindsey felt the only glitch was the internet speed. PSCI does not offer what we need, so Lieberman has shopped around for better internet service. Lindsey and Dartt just wanted to bring the Council up to date on what was going on. Attorney Ayer said that the Council needed to consider that this would generate a savings in Pauper Attorneys fees also, down the line. Kroeger asked that it be put back on the agenda for the December meeting and we have all the information concerning appropriations made from the AK Steel Settlement Funds so the Council can see what is going on.

Commissioners/Ambulance Service \$70,000.

Request was made by Jane Stout and she spoke to the Council. Stout explained that they needed additional appropriations to cover expenses for October and November, and they will put off December bills until January.

Kress made a motion to approve the \$70,000. Spaetti seconded the motion, motion approved.

COIT \$175,000.

Request was made by Commissioner President David Gogel and he spoke to the Council. Gogel explained that the Old 231 Truck Stop buildings had been deemed unsafe according to our Unsafe Buildings Ordinance. We have started the process of getting it cleaned up. We are at the point that we need money to move the process forward. We hope we don't have to use any of the money, but we need to have something to get started. Gogel explained that the \$175,000 was the original estimate to remove all the buildings; two of them have been removed from the unsafe category.

Kress made a motion to approve \$125,000. Bunner seconded the motion, motion was approved.

Transfers

Emergency Management Agency

Decrease Vehicle Maintenance \$2,000.

Increase Spencer County Community Foundation Line Item \$2,000.

Stephanie Melton made the request and spoke to the Council. Melton explained that they need money to purchase a Respirator FIT Machine, which will cost approximately \$9,000. They have received some money from a grant, but need more to make the purchase. It is coming to the point that if they are not fit tested on the machine, they will not be eligible for training.

Bunner made a motion to grant the \$2,000 transfer. Spaetti seconded the motion, motion approved.

Animal Control

Decrease Gas, Oil & Lube \$750.

Increase Utilities \$750.

Decrease Gas, Oil & Lube \$250.

Increase Telephone \$250.

Request was made by Joy Zook, David Gogel, board member, spoke to the Council and explained that they had underestimated utilities and telephone and need a little more to get through the year.

Bunner made a motion to approve both transfers in full. Knepper seconded the motion, motion approved.

Extension Office-Copier

Larry Dimmitt was present and explained that the copier they have is 20 years old and continues to have problems almost daily. They are requesting \$4,685.00 for the purchase of the copier; the Extension Office will take care of the maintenance agreement. Gogel said they could take it from Cum Cap Courthouse Maintenance and they wouldn't have to advertise it since the money was

November 19, 2013

already there to be used.

Kress made a motion to approve \$4,700 from Cum Cap Courthouse Maintenance for the purchase of the copier for the Extension Office. Seiler seconded the motion, motion approved.

Legal Report

Ayer reported that the letters for non binding letters were completed and had been mailed.

Ayer also reported that just as a clarification , as he stated earlier, he had talked to Judge Dartt concerning the minimum salaries for the Probation Officers and the increase in the salary pertained strictly to the two Probation Officers, no other office personnel.

Chrisney Fire Department

Kent Groves, Jimmy Perkins, Mason Seay and Trustee Karen McCormick were present representing Chrisney Fire Department.

Groves spoke to the Council and explained that the \$50,000 in the Trustees' budget; half of that amount is the payment from the AK Steel Settlement Fund and that will come to the Fire Department in January. McCormick explained that they need another truck and she is trying to build up the cash balance in order to do that. If we don't get another truck, insurance rates in Grass Township will go up.

After discussion Kroeger told McCormick to follow up with Robert Norris with DLGF and see what she can use out of her 2014 budget. Then go back to the Redevelopment Commission and ask them to revisit their request.

Gogel reminded the Council that previously the Redevelopment Commission, Commissioners and Council had all agreed to put a freeze on additional appropriations from AK Steel Settlement Funds. In order for the Redevelopment Commission to consider any amount we would all have to agree to open it back up for additional.

Kress made a motion to adjourn. Bunner seconded the motion, motion approved.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:13 P.M.

President

Attest:
